# ARTICLES

OF

## Viſitation and Inquiry

Concerning Matters

# EGCLESIASTICAL;

Exhibited to the

*Miniſters, Church-wardens, and Side-men,*

Of every Pariſh within the

## Dioceſe of CANTERBURY,

AT THE

## *PRIMARY VISITATION*

OF THE

Moſt Reverend Father in God

# THOMAS

By Divine Providence Lord Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, His Grace, Primate of all *England*, and Metropolitan, *Anno Dom.* 1695.

Printed in the Year MDCXCV.

# The Form of the OATH to be Administred to the *Church-wardens*, and *Side-men* of every Parish.

*YOU shall Swear Truly and Faithfully, according to the best of your skill and knowledge, to present such Things and Persons, as to your knowledge are Presentable, by the Laws* Ecclesiastical *of this Realm.*

**So help you God, and the Holy Contents of this Book.**

BRITISH MUSEUM
48
4 8
729

# ARTICLES

## Of *Viſitation*, &c. in the Dioceſe of *CANTERBURY*.

### TIT. I.

*Concerning Churches, Chappels, with the things belonging thereunto.*

I. IS your Pariſh-Church or Chappel, both in the Roof and Windows, Floor and Seats, in good and ſufficient Repair; and are all things therein kept in an orderly and decent ſort? Can. 85. Can. 81, 82.

II. Is there a Font of Stone in your Church or Chappel, with a Cover to it, ſtanding in the antient uſual place? Doth your Miniſter there baptize publickly? Is there a decent Communion-Table in your Chancel? covered in time of Divine Service with a Carpet, and when the Communion is adminiſtred, with a fair Linnen Cloath? And have you a Chalice or Communion-Cup, with a Cover, and one or more Flagons? Have any of theſe been prophaned by common Uſe? Can. 80, 82, 83.

III. Have you a convenient Seat or Pew wherein to read Divine Service; a Pulpit; a large Bible of the laſt Tranſlation; a Book of Common-Prayer; the Book of Homilies ſet forth by Authority; a printed Table of the Degrees wherein Marriages are prohibited; a Book of Cannons; and a decent Surplice? Can. 70.

IV. Have you a Parchment Book for the Regiſtring of the Day and Year of every Chriſtning, Wedding, and Burial in your Pariſh? How are the aforeſaid Books kept?

### TIT. II. *Concerning the Church-yard, Houſes, Glebes and Tythes belonging to the Church.*

I. IS your Chuch-yard well fenced, and decently kept? Hath any perſon encroached upon it, or made any door into it? And how long ſince?

II. Is the Houſe of your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, and the Out-houſes in good repair? Have any of them been defaced or pulled down without Licenſe? Have there been any Encroachments made upon the ſame, and by whom?

Can. 87. III. Have you a true Terrier of all the Glebelands, Meadows, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements or Cottages belonging to your Parſonage or Vicarage? As alſo a Note of ſuch Penſions, Rate-Tythes, and Portions of Tythes, or other yearly Profits (either within or without your Pariſh) as belong thereunto? Have any of them been with-held from your Miniſter, and by whom, as you know and have heard? And is your Terrier laid up in the Biſhop's Regiſtry?

## TIT. III. *Concerning Miniſters.*

Can. 48. I. IS your Miniſter Licenſed by the Biſhop? Hath he been legally inducted? And read the 39 Articles within the time by Law appointed, and declared his Aſſent thereunto? Is he defamed or ſuſpected to have obtained either his Benefice or Orders by any Simoniacal compact?

Stat. 13. *Eliz.* c. 12. Can. 45, 47, 48. II. Is your Miniſter conſtantly reſident among you, and doth he preach every Lord's day, unleſs hindred by Sickneſs or reaſonable abſence? How long in any one Year hath he been abſent from his Cure? who ſupplies it during his abſence? Doth he ſerve any other Cure beſides, or hath he any other Eccleſiaſtical Benefice? Doth he read Prayers on Sundays in the Afternoons in your Church?

Act of Uniformity. III. Doth your Parſon, Vicar or Curate, in reading the daily Morning and Evening Service, Adminiſtration of the Holy Sacraments, Celebration of Marriage, Churching of Women after Child-birth, Viſitation of the Sick, Burial of the Dead, uſe the Form and Words preſcribed in the Book of Common Prayer? Doth he read with an audible and diſtinct Voice? Doth he obſerve all ſuch Rites and Ceremonies, as are appointed in that Book, ſo far as you have taken notice of?

Rubr. before Morn. and Even. Prayers. Can. 58. IV. Doth your Miniſter at the Reading and Celebrating Divine Offices in your Church or Chappel wear the Surplice; together with ſuch other Habit as is ſutable to his Degree?

Can. 21, 22, 26. Rubric. before the Commun. V. Doth he celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ſo often that every Pariſhoner may receive it thrice at leaſt in every Year? And doth he keep back ſuch as ought not to be admitted, giving an account of them to the Biſhop?

VI. Doth

VI. Doth your Miniſter diligently inſtruct the Youth of your Pariſh in the Church-Catechiſm? And doth he prepare and preſent them, being ſo inſtructed, to be confirmed by the Biſhop? Can. 59. Rubric. before Confirmation.

VII. Doth he refuſe or neglect to viſit the Sick; or delay the Baptiſm of any Infant in danger of death? Is there any Child paſt Infancy, or other Perſon grown up, who, through your Miniſter's default, yet remains unbaptized in your Pariſh? Can. 61, Injunct. 14th. 1694. Can. 67, 69. Injunct. 13th. 1694.

VIII. Hath he married any Perſons in private Houſes; or ſuch as being under Age have not the Conſent of their Parents or Guardians, or without Banns firſt publiſhed in the Church on three Sundays or Holy-days, unleſs he had a Licenſe ſo to do: or at any other Hours than between Eight and Twelve in the Morning? Can. 62, 63.

IX. Doth your Miniſter declare to the People every Sunday, at the time appointed in the Communion Book, the ſeveral Holy-days and Faſting-days in the Week following? And doth he obſerve them? Doth your Miniſter twice every Year, on ſome Lord's-day after Evening Prayer, in your Church or Chappel, publiſh the Statute made againſt profane Swearing and Curſing? and on the *Fifth of November*, after Morning Prayer or Sermon, read diſtinctly and plainly the Act for publick Thankſgiving on that day; according as it is by thoſe Laws required? Can. 64. 21 *Jac.* c. 20. & 3 *Car.* I. c. 4. 3 *Jac.* I. c. 1.

X. Is he a Man of a ſober, ſtudious, peaceable and exemplary Life? Is he grave, modeſt and regular in his outward Demeanour and Apparel? Is he in any kind diſorderly and ſcandalous? Does he ſpend his time in any unlawful Game? Can. 75.

XI. Have you a Lecturer in your Church or Chappel, and who is he? Was he, before he entred upon his Lecture, approv'd and Licenſed according to the late Act of Uniformity? Doth he, upon the firſt Lords-day in every Month, duly perform all that the ſaid Act requires of him? Hath he any Benefice with Cure of Souls elſewhere? Act of Uniformity.

## TIT. IV. *Concerning the Pariſhioners.*

I. DOth every Pariſhioner demean himſelf reverently in your Church or Chappel, during Divine Service and preaching the Word of God; kneeling at the Prayers and Sacrament; ſtanding up when the Creed and Goſpel are read; ſaying audibly, with the Miniſter, the Confeſſion, Lord's Prayer and Creed; and making ſuch other Anſwers to the Publick Prayers as are appointed in the Book of Common Prayer? Are Can. 18.

there

Can. 19. there any Loiterers near the Church in the time of Divine Service or Sermon?

Can. 109. II. Is there any Person in your Parish who lieth under a common Fame or suspicion of Audultery, Fornication, or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards, Swearers, or Blasphemers of God's Name? Or any that are noted to be filthy Talkers, Railers, Sowers of Sedition, Faction, and Discord among their Neighbours?

Rubrick after Communion Can. 85. 89. III. Are there any that refuse to pay their Duty for *Easter* Offerings; or to contribute to the Rates made for repair of your Church or Chappel, or any thing thereunto belonging?

IV. Hath any Legacy been left by the last Will or Testament of any Persons, to your Church or Chappel, or to the Poor, or any other pious or charitable Use, which hath been mispent or embezzeled?

V. Are there any in your Parish, who under pretence of Liberty of Conscience, wholly neglect all publick Worship of God; neither going to Church, nor to any Assembly that meet together, according to the late Act for exempting His Majesties Protestant Subjects dissenting from the Church of *England*, from the Penalties of certain Laws?

Act for exempting, &c. VI. Have you any such Assembly of Dissenters in your Parish? Have they certified the place of their Meeting to the Bishop, or such others as that Act appoints? Do they meet with their Doors lock'd, barr'd, or bolted, during the time of their Meeting? Have their Preachers subscribed the Articles of our Religion, except those excepted in the Act, and taken the Oaths, and subscribed the Declaration therein required?

Injunct. 12. 1694. VII. Do any of your Parish profane the Lord's-day, by following their bodily or ordinary Labour on that day, or compel or permit their Servants so to do? Are any Shops kept open, or Wares sold on that day, or do you know of any other Profanation of the said day?

Can. 112. VIII. Are there any who profess to live in the Communion of the Church of *England*, who neglect to come to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, being of Age fit to receive it?

Can. 99. IX. Are there any living within your Parish, as Man and Wife, who are within the Degrees prohibited?

X. Do you know, or have you heard of any in your Parish, who having a Presentation of an Ecclesiastical Living, hath made any Simoniacal Compact or Gain thereby; either in Money, or by reserve of any part of the Tithes or Glebe belonging to the Benefice?

XI. Have

XI. Have any Pews or Seats been erected in your Church or Chappel without leave from the Ordinary? Is there any ſtrife or contention about Seats in the Church? Have any occaſioned Riot, Clamor, or Diſturbance in the Church at any time?

TIT. V. *Concerning Pariſh-Clerks and Sextons.*

I. HAve you a Pariſh Clerk aged 21 years at leaſt? Is he of an honeſt Life and Converſation? Able to perform his duty in Reading, Writing, and Singing? Is he choſen by your Miniſter? Doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services in the Church? Are his Wages duly paid him? Or who withholds the ſame from him? Can. 91.

II. Doth your Sexton perform his Duty diligently, in keeping the Church clean and decent, in tolling and ringing the Bells before Divine Service?

TIT. VI. *Concerning Schoolmaſters, Schools,* &c.

I. WHat Schoolmaſter, Private or Publick, is there in your Pariſh; Is he licenſed by the Biſhop? Doth he teach his Scholars the Church-Catechiſm? Doth he cauſe them to repair orderly to the Church or Chappel on Sundays and Holidays, and there ſee that they behave themſelves quietly and reverently during the time of Divine Service and Sermon? Can. 77, 78, 79.

II. What Hoſpital, Alms-houſe, or Free-School hath been Founded in your Pariſh? Are they ſo ordered in their Revenue and Uſe, as the Founders appointed, and the Law of the Land allows?

III. Do any in your Pariſh practiſe Phyſick, Chyrurgery, Midwifery, without licenſe from the Ordinary?

TIT. VII. *Concerning Eccleſiaſtical Officers.*

I. DOes any ſuch Officer pretend to authorize or permit any one, coming to reſide in this Dioceſs, to Preach, Read, Lecture, Catechiſe, or Miniſter the Sacraments, or to execute any other Eccleſiaſtical Function, unleſs he firſt conſent, and ſubſcribe to the Three Articles mentioned in *Can.* 36. in preſence of the Biſhop? Can. 37.

II. Hath any Chancellor, Commiſſary, Archdeacon, or Official, ſped any judicial Act, without the Regiſter of that Court, or his lawful Deputy, or in their abſence, without ſuch Perſons as are allowed in that behalf? Can. 123.

III. Do peculiar, and inferior Courts exhibit the original Copies of Wills into the Regiſter Office? Can. 126.

IV. Hath any Eccleſiaſtical Officer commuted any Penance of any delinquent Convicted? And how hath the Money been diſpoſed of? Can. Anno 1571. Tit. Cancell. &c.

V. Have

Can. 135. V. Hath any Eccleſiaſtical Officer taken any unlawful Fees?

## TIT. VIII. *Concerning Church-wardens and Sidemen.*

Can. 89. I. ARE the Church-wardens of your Pariſh yearly and duly choſen by the joint conſent of your Miniſter and Pariſhioners? Or one of them by your Miniſter, and the other by the Pariſhioners?

Ibid. II. Have the former and laſt Church-wardens, given up a juſt account of the Money they have received and laid out for the Uſe of the Church? And have they delivered up the Money remaining in their hands to the ſucceeding Church-wardens, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

Rubrick after Communion. III. Does the Curate and Church-wardens provide againſt every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, a ſufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and good Wine, according to the number of Communicants, at the charge of the Pariſh?

Ibid. IV. Do the Church-wardens at any time diſpoſe of the Mony given at the Offertory without the concurrence of the Miniſter?

---

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

I. *THere being an Act paſt lately in Parliament, Entituled,* An Act for the more effectual Suppreſſing profane Curſing and Swearing; *which Act is to be read in all Churches and Chappels, four times in the Year, and to begin on the firſt* Sunday *after the 24th of* June, 1695. *The Church-wardens are hereby required to provide the ſaid Act for the purpoſe aforeſaid.*

II. *The Church-wardens are requir'd to Sign their Preſentments, and to bring them ready ſign'd to the reſpective Places of Viſitation.*

III. *The Office of Confirmation will be perform'd*

*At the Cathedral Church of* Canterbury *on* Friday *the 17th of* May, *after Morning-Prayer, for the Deaneries of* Sandwich *and* Weſtbeer.

*On* Saturday *the 18th of* May, *at the ſame Place, after Morning-Prayer, for the Deaneries of* Bridge, Dover, *and* Elham.

*On* Sunday *the 19th of* May, *at the ſame Place, after Evening-Prayer, for the Deanery of* Canterbury.

*In the Pariſh Church of* Aſhford, *on* Wedneſday *the 22d of* May, *for the Deanery of* Charing *and* Lympne.

*In the Pariſh Church of* Sittingbourn *on* Friday *the 24th of* May, *for the Deaneries of* Sittingbourn, Sutton, *and* Oſpringe.

FINIS.